includes increasing out-reach and coverage of reproductive and child health care services, strengthening of health infrastructure, meeting the unmet needs for contraception services, and converging of integrated service delivery at village and house-hold levels. Stabilising population is perceived as must a function of extending primary and secondary education, improving access to safe drinking water, sanitation wand housing, and building roads, and providing transport and communication.

Implementation of Population Policy

966. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the annual increase of 15.50 million in Indian population was neutralising our efforts to conserve environment or boost development of the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that by May this year, the country is projected to have one billion (100 crore) population;

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to control the population; and

(d) whether any National Population Policy, 2000 has been formulated so far by Government and if so, in what manner Government have decided to monitor policy implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government has been aware that the annual increase in population was neutralising efforts to conserve environment and economic development. Government has taken remedial action from time to time under the National Family Welfare Programme officially launched in 1951. There have been significant achievements under the programme and the States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Goa have already achieved goals set for 2000 AD (i.e. replacement level of fertility being 2.1). The States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat and Maharashtra are close to achieving this goal.

(d) The Government of India has approved the National Population Policy 2000. The Policy seeks to put in place a multi-sectoral agenda for population stabilisation which includes increasing out-reach and coverage of reproductive and child health care services, strengthening of health infrastructure, meeting the unmet needs for contraception services, and converging of integrated service delivery at village and house-hold levels. Stabilising population is perceived as much a function of extending primary and secondary education, improving access to safe drinking water, sanitation and housing, and building roads, and providing transport and communication.

For monitoring implementation of the Policy, the document suggests setting up of the following new structures:—

(i) National Commission on Population.
(ii) State/UT Commission on Population.
(iii) Coordination Cell in the Planning Commission and
(iv) Technology Mission in the Department of Family Welfare.

Limiting Population Growth

967. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's population will soon cross the one billion mark;

(b) whether it is now 26th year since the 1st National Population Policy was presented to Parliament in April, 1976; if so, why that policy has not been implemented; and

(c) what steps Government are planning to limit population growth, which is largely diluting the front of our economic development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The population of India is projected to reach the one billion mark on 11th May, 2000.

(b) A statement on National Population Policy was made by the